

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

SYNOPSIS AGENDA/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

CODE:	PL-02
COMMITTEE:	Policy and Legislative
DATE:	October 14, 2015

SUBJECT/TITLE

Aiken County Public Schools' Waiver Request of State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-205 (R.43-205), Administrative and Professional Personnel Qualifications, Duties and Workloads

PURPOSE OF REPORT/REGULATION/ITEM

The purpose of this waiver request is to allow one principal to preside over both Ridge Spring Monetta Middle School and Ridge Spring Monetta High School without incurring an accreditation deficiency through the 2018–19 school year, which is the remaining term of the district strategic and school renewal plan cycle.

CRITICAL FACTS

SBE R.43-205 states that, “Each school must be staffed with a full-time, properly certified principal/director whose duties and responsibilities must be prescribed by the district superintendent.”

Having one principal serve over both a secondary and middle school creates an accreditation deficiency.

Ridge Spring Monetta Middle School, with a 6–8 grade span and enrollment of 213 students, has merged with Ridge Spring Monetta High School, which has a 9–12 grade span and enrollment of 237 students. All students are housed on the same campus.

The new school is now called Ridge Spring Monetta Middle/High School.

One principal, who has both Tier I Elementary and Tier I Secondary Principal certifications, will serve as the principal for the new school.

The District has implemented these changes into their 2015–16 district strategic and school renewal plans under SBE R.43-261, District and School Planning.

This waiver would be effective through the 2018–19 school year, which is the duration of Aiken County Public Schools' district strategic and school renewal plan cycle.

TIMELINE/REVIEW PROCESS

October 2015–January 2016

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) accreditation team reviews school/district data and documentation for compliance to statutes, SBE regulations, and accreditation standards.

February 2016

Preliminary analysis reports and accreditation ratings are posted online for school and district viewing.

February 2016–May 2016

The SCDE accreditation team works with schools and districts to resolve accreditation deficiencies.

July 2016

The *2015–16 Annual Report of the Accreditation of School Districts in South Carolina*, containing the final accreditation status for schools and districts, goes to the SBE for approval.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

COST:

N/A

FUND/SOURCE:

ATTACHMENTS

Attachments: ☒ yes ☐ no

(attachments must be submitted with synopsis)

Name of Attachments: Aiken County Public Schools' Waiver Request

RECOMMENDATION

The SCDE recommends the SBE approve Aiken County Public Schools' waiver request of R.43-205 that, "Each school must be staffed with a full-time, properly certified principal/director whose duties and responsibilities must be prescribed by the district superintendent," for Ridge Spring Monetta Middle/High School, and the waiver is to remain in effect through the 2018–19 school year, which is the term of the district strategic and school renewal plan cycle.

ACTION REQUEST

FOR APPROVAL: ☒

FOR INFORMATION ONLY: ☐